Speaker: Shanmugasundaram Venkataraman

Video Title: Research Data Management Service Delivery

**Transcript:**

**0:06 – Slide 1: introduction**

I'm going to take you through a different aspect of data stewardship, I guess, to what has been covered in the first and second days. And that's for me to introduce you to this idea of the RDM service model functions.

**0:24 – Slide 2: The different roles of a data steward**

And I'm just showing this diagram again that I think we saw earlier this week. And really, just to illustrate that, out of all this, we're now going to try and concentrate on this, the infrastructure.

So just to recap, what the different roles in the data steward might be, unlike most other roles, the data stewards traverse this researcher and service provider barrier. And you really need to know and have knowledge from both these perspectives. So yes, there are these three key areas: policy, research & infrastructure, and as I say, we're going to be concentrating more on this (infrastructure). And of course, the FAIR principles are at the heart of it.

**1:11 - Slide 3: RDM Services**

So hopefully, you did have a look at this document which I think has been linked in the chat (<https://www.dcc.ac.uk/guidance/how-guides/RISE>). You will have seen this diagram. And it's just an illustration of how we're going to go about things today. Just to break it down a bit. What we're seeing here and this circle in the centre, is essentially that curation lifecycle, maybe you're all familiar with, curation lifecycle where from the point of creation of a data object through to its eventual preservation and publication.

Roughly speaking, this isn't a one to one mapping, but it's roughly speaking on a par with that. But outside of that circle you've got these four other things, advisory services, training, RDM policy and strategy, and business plans and sustainability. So together and there are 10 headings, this RDM services covers. And for each of these, you'll find that there are actually sub headings as well. So you've got these 10 main headings, but they're actually subheadings that you can see as well. And you should have seen that in the document that was linked to.

Today, we're actually not going to go through every one of these in the exercise we're about to do. We're actually only going to concentrate on three of them, namely the training, data management planning, and the advisory services, but more on that later.

**2:57 - Slide 4: Rise levels of capability**

So for each of those different headings as I said, there's 10 main headings but then many of those actually have subheadings as well. For every one of those, what we're going to do, this RISE framework allows you to give them a rating and the rating is either level one, two, or three.

Meaning level one is compliance with funder expectations that's basically like a baseline. Just getting things over the line. Minimal effort. Level two is locally tailored services, a bit better effort has been put into the services so that it's more bespoke. And that level three, we have sector leading. So a lot of effort and finances have been thrown into these services. You can have certification as well. For example, some repositories have trustworthiness certifications. Basically, that means they meet a lot of standards that have been established, and so they're really pushing boundaries to make sure that they are sustainable, trustworthy. Indeed, some repositories can also get ISO certifications as well, which is really the gold standard. You'll also notice here that there is a level zero and that essentially means nonexistent. So there is that as well. Really we're looking at 1, 2 and 3 if you think that service doesn't actually exist, then you can put level zero.

**4:57 – Slide 5: Using RISE to take stock and plan**

By using the RISE framework, which I think I've actually forgotten to tell you what that stands for, but hopefully you know it already. So the RISE stands for Research Infrastructure Self Evaluation.

So yes, using this to take stock and plan. It sets the scope and identifies the context. Classifies current provision for relevant capabilities, identifies feasible changes to aim for. So you might have heard of gap analyses and that's essentially what we're doing here, a gap analysis.

So please note that there is no right level. Sorry, the right level is what makes sense in your institutional context. And that higher is not necessarily better. So what we're trying to say here is depending on the institution that you might work at, for example, some institutions are very research heavy, as opposed to teaching, and so the infrastructure should reflect that. If you're producing a lot of data through research, then you should perhaps think about having appropriate services, to actually be able to manage all that data. However, if you’re more focused on teaching, then maybe you don't need such services.

And of course, there is a financial consideration here and indeed, for example, the University of Edinburgh where i'm based, they spent a lot of money on building bespoke services for their researchers and students, but that's based on a business plan they undertook because it is a research intensive university. So they wanted to take ownership of their data. And so to do that, they build a lot of services. For example, an institutional repository. That's also a service which is basically their own Dropbox. But because it's their own version of Dropbox, the data doesn't go externally. It stays within their servers. And that means if anything that goes wrong they still have ownership of that data. So that's just a link to how to use RISE. But I think you've already seen that. Indeed that is probably the link that is in the chat.

**7:46 - Slide 6: 21 capabilities across 10 service areas**

So, just to give a bit more detail before we actually go into the exercise. I've told you this already, but just to put it into a slight context here. The level one, I said to you, it's basically the baseline level of providing a service. So for example, in this heading security management, so one of those 10 headings. These are the three choices that you might encounter.

So for level one, the service provides authenticated, access to storage that's protected from unauthorised data access, and researchers are made aware of procedures for data protection, and de-identification. So I hope you can see here that Yeah, it seems like there's a minimum amount of effort that was put into actually meeting these requirements.

Whereas in level two, it could be that the service provides tools and environments that enable researchers to de-identify, encrypt or control access to data as required. So it's one level up, it provides a slightly more tailor approach to what the users might need.

Whereas at level three, the service provides researchers from across the institution with access to ISO or equivalently accredited facilities for analysis of shared sensitive data. Now as I mentioned earlier, for example, ISO standards, they're like the gold standard for certifying the services that might be put into place. To do so might cost a lot of money to get ISO certification.

Again, it's that balance that only you'll be able to determine. Is it really necessary in your local institution to do that? Because yeah, are you producing enough data for example?